Summary

of

Declaration and Programme of Action

of the

UN World Summit for Social Development

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Declaration and Programme of Action

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UN World Summit for Social Development

VANI-Voluntary Action Network India
H-17/1, Malviya Nagar
New Delhi-110017

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Since its inception in 1988 VANI has been actively working towards information collection and dissemination on various issues of development. On the recently concluded United Nations World Summit for Social Development held in Cophenhagen, Denmark, VANI disseminated a lot of information to a large number of Voluntary Organisations all over the country.

This booklet is an outcome of the decision taken by the National Committee set-up during the National Consultation on World Summit for Social Development organised by VANI on February 6-7, 1995, to take forward the process of monitoring and evaluation after the World Summit till a National Consultation on follow-up mechanism could be organised. During the committee meeting held on April 4, 1995 a few individuals offered their services "preparing a Summary of the UN document to be published by VANI. But due to various reasons and their tight schedule, some of them could not do it.

VANI is thankful to the following people who have prepared the Summary of different Sections and Chapters of the documents;

*	Ms. Atreyee Cordeiro	-	Chapter I
*	Mr. Narendra Kumar	-	Chapter II
*	Mr. Anil K Singh	-	Chapter III
*	Ms. Rama Sen	-	Chapter IV
*	Ms. Geetha Unnikrishnan	-	Chapter V

VANI acknowledges 'Mainstream' for their write-up on Declaration, which it is reproducing in this booklet.

May 1995

ANIL K SINGH
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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Summary of Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Social Development

Part-I

Declaration:

The Declaration of the World Summit for Social Development (held in Cophenhagen from March 6 to 12, 1995) begins with the words:

For the first time in history, at the invitation of the United Nations, we gather as Heads of State and Government to recognise the significance of social development and human well-being for all and to give to these goals the highest priority both now and into the twenty-first century.

It emphasises the historic importance of the Summit and the urgency of addressing "profound social problems, especially poverty, unemployment and social exclusion, that affect every country"; and identifies the task as one of tackling "both their underlying and structural causes and their distressing consequences in order to reduce uncertainty and insecurity in the life of people". It acknowledges the fact that societies must respond more effectively to the material and spiritual needs of individuals, their families and the communities in which they live".

In a paragraph that was approved at the final stage of the negotiations, world leaders express their conviction that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. Equitable social development,

which recognises empowering of the poor to utilise environmental resources sustainably, is a necessary foundation for sustainable development. World leaders also recognise that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice.

The Declaration affirms that in both economic and social terms, the most productive policies and investments are those which empower people to maximise their capacities, resources and opportunities. It also maintains that "social and economic development cannot be secured in a sustainable way without the full participation of women" and that "equality and equity between women and men is a priority for the international community and as such must be at the centre of economic and social development". The leaders express their determination to capture the unique possibilities offered by the end of the cold war to promote social development and to tackle its problems in a Summit of "hope, commitment and action".

Globalisation "opens new opportunities for sustained economic growth and development", the Declaration goes on. The challenge, however, is to manage the rapid processes of change and adjustment which engender intensified poverty, unemployment and social disintegration, in order to enhance their benefits and mitigate their negative effects upon people. Despite progress in some areas of social and economic development, the insecurity many people face about the future is intensifying. More than a billion people in the world live in abject poverty, a majority of whom are women, particularly in Africa and in the least developed countries. Over 120 million people worldwide are officially unemployed and many more are underemployed.

"We can continue to hold the trust of the people of the world only if we make their needs our priority", the

Declaration states. Poverty, lack of productive employment and social disintegration "are an offence to human dignity" and "a manifestation of ineffectiveness in the functioning of markets and economic and social institutions and processes", it stresses. The challenge is to establish a people centred framework for social development and to build a culture of cooperation and partnership to respond to the immediate needs of those most affected by human distress. Among reasons for convening the Summit, world leaders acknowledge that there are "serious problems of a different nature and magnitude in countries with economies in transition and those experiencing fundamental political, economic and social transformations".

Summit participants declare "a political, economic, ethical and spiritual vision for social development". Such a vision forms the basis of a framework for action, covering several issues and components which are addressed in more specific terms in the action programme. The document stresses throughout that states have the primary responsibility to attain the goals of the Summit, but cannot do it alone, which is why a global effort is needed.

The final part of the draft declaration contains 10 commitments, which are the basis for launching a global drive for social progress and development, as follows:

"Commitment 1" concerns the creation of a conducive economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that would enable people to achieve social development.

This commitment includes the following:

"Commitment 2" addresses the goal of eradicating poverty in the world as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind.

This Commitment includes the following:

At the international level, we will focus attention on and support the special needs of countries and regions in which there are substantial concentrations of people living in poverty, in particular those in South Asia, and which therefore face serious difficulties in achieving social and economic development.

"Commitment 3" urges the promotion of the goal of full employment as a basic priority of economic and social policies.

This Commitment includes the following;

"Commitment 4" calls for the promotion of social integration by fostering societies that are stable, safe and just, based on the protection of all human rights, non-discrimination, tolerance and respect for diversity.

"Commitment 5" deals with the promotion of full respect for human dignity and the issue of achieving equality and equity between women and men.

"Commitment 6" is on the promotion and attainment of the goals of universal and equitable access to quality education, the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and the access of all to primary health care, "making particular efforts to rectify inequalities relating to social conditions and without distinction as to race, national origin, gender, age or disability; and respecting and promoting common and particular cultures".

"Commitment 7" pledges world leaders to accelerate the economic, social and human resource development of Africa and the least developed countries.

"Commitment 8" states that structural adjustment programmes should include social development goals.

This Commitment includes the following:

At the international level, we will work to ensure that multilateral development banks and other donors

complement leading with enhanced targeted social developement investment lending; strive to ensure that structural adjustment programmes respond to the economic and social conditions, concerns and needs of each country; enlist the support and cooperation of regional and international organisations and the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, in the design, social management and assessment of structural adjustment polcies, and in implementing social development goals and integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations.

"Commitment 9" calls for a significant increase and/or more efficient utilisation of the resource allocated to social development in order to achieve the goals of the Summit through national action and regional and international cooperation;

"Comment 10" urges an improved and strengthened framework for all levels of cooperation for social development.

This commitment includes the following:

At the international level, we will refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among states.

The commitment ends with the stipulation that the UN General Assembly "should hold a special session in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and consider further actions and initiatives.

(Source, Mainstream, 1995, 25th March pp.31..).

Part-II

Programme of Action

1. The present programme of Action outlines policies, actions and measures to implement the principles and fulfil the commitments enunciated in the Declaration adopted by the World Summit for Social Development.

2. Actions are recommended to create, in a sustained economic growth and sustainable development, a National and International environment favourable to social development, to eradicate poverty to enhances productive employment and reduce unemployment, and foster social integration.

3. The Programme of Action takes into account the commitments, principles and recommendations of other world conferences; its importance is in its integrated approach and its attempt to combine many different actions for poverty eradication, employment creations and social integration in coherent national and international strategies for social development.

Chapter I

An Enabling Environment for Social Development.

Basis for Action

4. Social Development is inseparable from the cultural, ecological, economic, political and spiritual environment in which it takes place which is again linked with national and international development of peace, freedom, stability and security. Its promotion requires an orientation of values, objectives and priorities, towards well being of all and the strengthening and promotion of conducive institutions and policies. Human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, equality, equity and social justice constitute the fundamental values of all societies. The pursuit, promotion and protection of these values among others, provides the basic legitimacy of all institutions and all exercise of authority and promotes an environment in which human beings are at the centre of concern for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

5. The economies and societies of the world are becoming increasingly inter-dependent globally. The global community is threathened by environmental degradation; severe food crisis, epidemics, racial discrimination, xenophobia, violence and risk of losing the richness of cultural diversity. Governments have recognised that sustainable development and social progress will require increased solidarity through international co-operation, benefiting especially the least developed countries, from the process of globalization.

6. Economic activities are a fundamental basis for social progress. Public policies are necessary to maintain social stability and to create a national and international economic environment that promotes sustainable growth, equity, social justice, tolerence, responsibility and involvement on a global scale.

7. The ultimate goal of social development is to improve and enhance the quality of life of one and all in the community, empowerment and participation are essential for democracy, harmony and social development. To create a new human world, gender equality, equity and full participation of women in all economic social and political activities is essential.

8. Promotion of an enabling environment based on a people - centred approach for sustainable development, like, involvement of civil society in the formulation and implementation of decisions; integration of population into economic and development strategies; poverty eradication; equitable and non-discriminatory distribution of the benefits of growth; Strenghtened role for the family in accordance with the declaration of the World Summit for Social Development and those of the International Conference on Population and Development; access to acknoweldge, technology education, health care services and information; protection and conservation of natural environment in the context of people centred sustainable development.

Action

A. A favourable national and international economic environment

9. The promotion of mutually reinforcing broad based sustained economic growth and sustainable development on a global scale, as well as growth in production, a

non-discriminatory and multilateral rule based international trading system, employment and incomes, as a basis for social development; implementing sound and stable macroeconomic and sectoral policies; promoting enterprise and productive investment and expended access to open and dynamic markets, implementing the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations; to follow international law and the charter of the United Nations; ensuring that the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing states are adequately addressed by implementing the programme of action for the sustainable development of small Island Developing States.

10. To ensure that the benefits of global economic growth are equitably distributed among countries, efforts have been made to alleviate the onerous debt and debt service burdens connected with the various types of debt of many developing countries, strengthening and improving technical and financial assistance to developing countries; taking into account that the major cause of detoriation of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, which is aggravating poverty and imbalances; the full implementation of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and assisting countries that are not currently in a position to benefit fully from the liberalization of the World Economy, supporting countries dependent on commodity exports to diversify their economies.

11. To support the developing countries at the national and international levels, implementation of effective policies and development strategies giving priority to human resource development, efforts to create an enabling environment that attracts foreign and domestic direct -investment in developing counties ; supporting economic reforms through trade and partnerships; provide technical and financial support to developing countries

for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification projects and programmes; finding effective, development oriented and durable solutions to the external debt problems, through the immediate implementation of the terms of debt forgiveness agreed upon in the Paris Club priorities.

12. Making economic growth and the interaction of the market forces more conducive to social development requires implementation of open market opprotunities for all; improving, broading, and regulating the functioning of markets to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development; establishing an open market policy; ensuring public and private investment in human resource development and for capacity building in health and education;

13. Ensuring that fiscal systems and other public policies are geared towards eradication of poverty and do not generate socially divisive disparities, calls for enacting rules and regulation that prevents all forms of corruption and exploitationof individuals familes and groups; enhancing cooperation between governments, the private sector and civil society; promoting international agreements addressing effectively issues of double taxation, as well as tax evasion.

B. A favourable national and international political and legal environment

14. To ensure that the political framework supports the objectives of social development, it is essential that the government institution and agencies have the status, resources & information necessary to qive high priority to social development in policy making; eliminating all forms of discrimination; encouraging decentralisation of public institution and services to local needs and

facilitating local participation; strengthening the capacities and opportunities of all people especially, disadvantaged or vulnerable to enhance their own economic and social development; ensuring full involvement and participation of women at all levels in the decision making and implementation, process; resourcing all legal impedements to the ownership of all means of production and property by man and women; Taking measures in accordance with the charter of United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments to create political and legal environment to address the root cause of movements of refugees, to allow their voluntary return in safety and dignity.

15. It is essential for social development that all human rights and fundamental precedures including the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, be promoted and protected through implementing the international human rights convention with ratifications where necessary, re-affirming and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms;ensuring the participation of every human person in the development process; promoting and protecting the human rights of women, children, especially of the girl child and vulnerable and disadvantaged, in the society; prevent and eliminate all domestic discriminations and violence.

16. An open political and economic system requires access by all to knowledge, education and information by strengthening the education system at all levels, while removing economic and socio-cultural barries raising public awareness and promoting gender sensitivity education; enabling access of information on social development and gender issues.

17. International support for national efforts to promote a favourable political and legal environment, must be in confirmity with the Charter of the United Nations, principles of international law and the declaration on principles of international law concerning friendly relations and cooperation among states in accordance with the Charater of United Nations, making use of these to prevent and resolve armed conflicts and promote social progress; coordinating action and legal instruments and/or measures to combat terrorism and other activities contrary to human rights and human dignity; the right to development should be fulfiled so as to equitably meet the social, developmental and environmental needs of present and future generation; ensuring that human persons are at the centre of social development; ellaborating policies that support the objectives of social development; strengthen the capacity of governments, the private sector and civil society to enable them to meet their specific and global responsibility.

Eradication of Poverty

Basis for Action and Objectives

18. Over 1 billion people in the world today live under unacceptable conditions of poverty, mostly in developing countries, and particularly in rural areas of low income Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the least developed countries.

19. Poverty has various manifestations, including lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; lack of access to education; increased morbidity and mortality; homelessness; unsafe environment; social discrimination and exclusion and lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. Women and Children bear a disproportionate burden of poverty which not only depends on income but also on access of social services.

20. There is a general agreement that persistent widspread poverty, social and gender in-equities, have influences on, and are in turn influenced by demographic parameters, unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

21. Urban poverty is increasing with urbanization resulting in overcrowding, contaminated water and bad sanitation, unsafe shelter, crime and additional social problems. An increasing number of low-income urban households are female maintained.

22.Gender disparities are marked, especially in femable maintained households. Increase in population will

result in increased number of youth living in poverty. Hence, specific measures are needed to address the juvenilization and feminization of poverty.

23. Poverty has various causes, including structural ones, with origins in both the national and international domains. No uniform solution can be found for global application, it is in-separably linked to lack of control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections. Eradication of poverty can not be accomplishd through anti-poverty programme alone, but will require democratic participation and changes in economic structures.

24. People living in poverty and vulnerable groups must be empowered through organisation and participation, in all aspects of political, economic and social life; and in in the planning and implementation of policies that effect them; enable them to become genuine partners in development.

25. There is therefore an urgent need for, national strategies to reduce over-all-poverty; international support and cooperation to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty; development of methods to measure absolute poverty; regular national review of economic policies of national budgets; human resource development and improved infrastructural facilities; policies that strengthen family and contribute to its stability; mobilization of public and private sector to assist poverty striken areas.

Actions

A. Formulation of integrated strategies

26. Government should give greater focus to public

efforts to eradicate absolute poverty and to reduce overall poverty substantially by, promoting sustained economic growth; formulating national poverty eradication plans to address the structural causes of poverty; establishing policies, objectives measureable targets to enhance and broader women's economic opportunities; eliminating injustice and obstacles that women face; encouraging and supporting local community development projects to eradicate poverty.

27. Governments are urged to integrate goals and targets for combating poverty into overall economic and social policies and planning at the local, national and regional levels by, analysing policies and programme; redesigning public investment policies ensuring development policies that benefit low-income communities; establishing and strengthening, mechanisms for the coordination of efforts to combat poverty.

28. People living in poverty and their organisations should be empowered by, involving them fully in designning, implementing and monitoring of national strategies and programmes; placing special emphasis on capacity building; educating people about their rights; political system and the availability of programmes.

29. There is a need to periodically monitor, access and share information on the performance of poverty eradication plans, evaluate policies to combat poverty and promote an understanding and awareness of poverty and its causes and consequencies by developing, updating and disseminating specific and agreed gender disaggregated indicators of poverty and vulnerability, monitoring and assessing the achievement of goals and targets to international forums in the area of social development; facilitating exchange of knowledge and experience through subregional and regional organizations.

30. Members of the international community should, bilaterally or through multilateral organizations, foster an enabling environment for poverty eradication by coordinating policies and programmes in order to meet basic social development goals and targets; strengthen the capacity of countries with economics in transation to develop their social protection system social policies, and eradication of poverty.

B. Improved access to productive resources and infrastructure

31. The opportunities for income generation, diversification of activities and increase of productivity in low-income and poor communities should be enhanced by, improving the availability and accessibility of transportation, communication, power and energy services; promoting national and international assistance in providing economically viable alternatives for social groups; promoting comprehensive rural development; ensuring economic opportunities for rural women should be improved, through elimination of legal, social, cultural and practical obstacles.

32. Rural poverty should be addressed by, expanding and improving land ownership through land reform, security of land texure and ensuring equal rights of women and men in this respect; improving access to markets and market information; protecting traditional rights to land and other resources; promoting education, research and development on farming systems; and training for effective use of existing technologies and indigenous knowledge.

33. Access to credit by small rural or urban producers, landless farmers and other people with low or no income should be substantially improved, with special attention to the needs of women and dis-advantaged and vulnerable groups by receiving, national legal,

regulatory and institutional framework to credit on reasonable terms; access to affodable credit.

34. Urban poverty should further be addressed by, strengthening micro-enterprises, facilitating the transition from the informal to the formal sector, educating and training the women, that youth, unemployed and the underemployed; strategies for shelter should give special attention to women and children; promote better employment opportunities.

C. Meeting the basic human of all

35. Government in partnership with all other development actors in particular organisation of, and people living in poverty, should cooperate to meet the basic human needs of all, by ensuring access to social services; recognising that improving peoples health is inseparably linked to sound environment.

36. Government should implement the commitments that have been made, to meet the basic needs of all by the year 2000, like basic education, life espectency, reduction of maternal mortality and malnutrition group children; attain food security and healthly living, control of major diseases; access of safe drinking water and affordable adequate shelter for all.

37. Access to social services for people living in poverty and vulnerable groups should be improved through facilitating and improving access of education, expanding pre-school education through new learning technologies; ensuring access to quality healthcare, specially in low income groups and rural areas.

D. Enhanced social protection and reduced vulnerability

38. Social protection system should be based on legislation; in order to protect people who can not work from poverty, sickness, disability, old age, maternity, etc, should be provided protection universally; should have social security programmes; ensure social safty nets associated with economic restructuring under structural adjustment programmes.

39. Particular efforts should be made to protect children and youth by promoting family stability and social support; taking legislative, administrative, social and educational measure to protect and promote rights of the child, particularly girl child; addressing speical needs of, indigenous children and sing parent in the society.

40. Paticular efforts should be made to protect older persons, by strengthening family support system; ensuring that they get the basic human needs; encourage cross generational participation in policies and programme development and in decision making bodies at all levels.

41. People and communities should be protected from improverishment and long term displacement and exclusion resulting from disaster through the following actions at the national and international levels, by designing effective mechanisms to reduce the impact and mitigate efforts of natural disaster, such as earthquake, cyclones and Hoods; planning the logistical mechanism to enable quick response in disaster situation.

The Expansion of Productive Employment and the Reduction of Unemployment

Basis for action and objectives

42. Productive work and employment are central elements of development as well as of human identity. National efforts need to be reinforced by international cooperation in achieving the goal of full employment.

43. Globalisation is leading to increasing labour mobility giving rise to new employment opportunities as well as new uncertainties. To meet the changing circumstances, human resource development need to be oriented towards enhancing the knowledge and skills of particularly women and youth to enable them to work productively.

44. The informal sector is the leading source of employment for those like women who have limited access to formal sector wage employment. Removal of obstacles to the expansion of this sector must be accompanied by protection of the basic rights, health and safety of workers and improvement of overall working conditions.

45. Particular efforts by the Public and Private Sectors have to be made in all spheres of employment policy to ensure gender equality, equal opportunity and non-discrimination on the basis of race/ethnic group, religion, age, health, disability and full respect for applicable international instuments so as to ensure their integration into productive activities.

46. Women the world over face the double burden of remunerated and unremunerated work. The social and economic importance of unremunerated work need to be acknowledged. The very conception of productive work need to be broadened and one way to promote this is to develop methods for reflecting the value of unremunerative work in quantitative term for possible reflection in accounts.

47. In order to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, there is an urgent need for placing the creation of employment at the centre of national strategies and policies; expanding work opportunities and increasing productivity in both rural and urban sectors; education and training that enable workers and entrepreneurs to adapt to changing technologies and economic conditions; quality jobs with full respect for the basic rights of workers as defined by ILO and other international instruments; special priority to the problems of structural, long-term unemployment and underemployment of youth, women, persons with disabilities and all other disadvantaged groups; empowerment of women, gender balance in decision-making processes; empowerment of members of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups through provisions including education and training.

Actions

A. Centrality of employment in policy formulation

48. Placing the expansion of productive employment at the centre of sustainable development strategies and economic and social policies requires policies for full, productive appropriately remunerated and freely chosen employment.

49. Minimising the negative impact on jobs of measures for macroeconomic stability requires coordination of macroeconomic policies so that they are mutually conducive to broad based and sustained economic growth and sustainable development; removing structural constraints to economic growth and employment creation; disseminating information on the impact of trade and investment liberalisation on the economy and employment; establishing social safety mechanisms to minimise adverse effect of structural adjustment or reform programmes through education and retraining.

50. Promoting patterns of economic growth that maximise employment creation requires labour intensive investments in economic and social infastructure and developing community assets in both rural and urban areas; giving developing countries the capacity to select specific and suitable technologies; providing technical assistance and expand transfer of technology to developing countries and strengthen national and local technology institutions; encouraging community economic development strategies involving governments and members of civil society; introducing policies for mobilising savings and stimulating investment in capital-short areas; conservation and management of natural resources; promotion of alternative livelihoods in fragile eco-systems and rehabilitation of vulnerable land areas and natural resources; encouraging utilisation of renewable energy.

51. Enhancing opportunities for the creation and growth of private-sector enterprises that would generate additional employment requires removing obstacles faced by small and medium-sized enterprises and easing regulations; facilitate access to small and medium-sized enterprises to credit and markets, training and technological information; improving opportunities and working conditions for women and youth entrepreneurs by eliminating disciminations in access to productive resources and by providing

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social security protection; promoting legal frameworks to foster development of cooperative enterprises; assisting informal sectors and local enterprises to progressively integrate into the formal economy.

B. Education, training and labour policies

52. Facilitating people's access to productive employment in the rapidly changing global environment and developing better quality jobs requires well-defined educational priorities and investing in education and training systems; revitalised partnership between education and other departments of government including labour and communications, and partnership between governments and non-governmental organisations; participation of youth and adult learners in the design of education and training programmes; training on a continuous basis and also securing access of women to training programmes; retraining of displaced and retrenched workers to facilitate their re-entry; encouraging national and international exchange of information of innovative models and best experiences.

53. Helping workers to adapt and to enhance their employment opportunities under changing economic conditions requires active labour policies to stimulate the demand for labour in order to ensure that the burden of indirect labour costs on employers does not constitute a disincentive to hiring workers and establishing instituions and processes that prevent all forms of discriminations and improve the employment opportunities of groups that are vulnerable and disadvantaged; promoting access of women and girls to traditonally male-dominated occupations, promoting labour mobility and maintenance of adequate levels of solid protection to worker redeployment; integration of women into workforce by developing adequate child care, care for older persons and other support services; cooperation between employees and

employers for the introduction of new technologies, while ensuring adequate protection; strengthening public and private employment services to assist workers to adapt to changing job markets and also strengthening labour market information systems. All data gathered in this process should be disaggregated by gender in order to monitor the status of women relative to men.

C. Enhanced Quality of Work and Employment

54. Governments should enhance the quality of work and employment by observing and fully implementing the human rights obligations that they have assured; safeguarding and promoting respect for basic worker's rights including prohibition of forced labour and child labour, freedom of association and the right to organise and bargain collectively; using international labour standared for formulating national labour legislation and policies; promoting the role of the ILO for improving the level of employment and the quality of work; promoting cooperation between workers and employers in the decisions of enterprises.

55. Remove exploitation, abolish child labour, raise productivity and enhance the quality of life for safe and healthy working environment by developing and implementing progressive policies, promoting sound labour relations based on tripartite cooperation and full respect for the freedom of association and the right to organise and bargain collectively, setting specific target dates for eliminating all forms of child labour, designing policies and programmes to help eradication of family poverty, protecting workers especially women from sexual harassment and violence.

56. Full participation of women in the labour market and their equal access to employment opportunities

requires promoting gender sensitivity training to eliminate prejudices against the employment of women improvement in access to technologies to women changing policies and attitude that reinforce the division of labour based on gender; providing affordable quality child-care facilities and paying attention to the needs of single parent households.

D. Enhance employment opportunities for groups with specific needs

57. Activity involving representatives of particular groups in planning, designing, management, monitoring, evaluating programmes by providing access to accurate information and sufficient resources.

58. Employment policies can better address the problem of short and long-term unemployment by incorporating, involving unemployed and/or their associations in employment planning, re-education and training, literacy, skill upgrading, counselling and job-search assistance.

59. Programmes for entry or re-entry into the labour market aimed at vulnerable and disadvantaged groups by increasing the level of skills, and also improving the ability of getting a job through improvements in housing, health and family life.

60. Policies should seek to guarantee all youth constructive options for their future by providing equal access to education, designing and carrying out comprehensive and coordinated programmes that stimulate the resourcefulness of youth.

61. Full participation of indigenous people in the labour market and their equal access to employment

opportunities requires developing comprehensive employment, education and training programmes.

62. Employment opportunities for persons with disabilities requires non-discriminating laws and regulations, organising support services, devising incentive schemes, and small business, providing conducive work place and promoting public awareness.

63. For migrant workers and their family an intensified international cooperation and national attention is needed. Government of countries of origin, transit and destination are urged to safeguard their basic human rights and prevent them from exploitation and adopt effective sanctions against those countries who exploit or engage in trafficking. Governments are also urged to facilitate the return of migrants and their reintegration into their home communities.

E. A broader recognition and understanding of work and employment

64. Acknowledging the important contribution of unremunerated work to societal well-being and bringing respect, dignity and value to societal perceptions of such work and the people, promoting socially useful volunteer work and allocating appropriate resources to support such work without diluting the objectives regarding employment expansion.

65. The development of additional socially useful new types of employment and work requires helping vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to integrate better into society and participate more effectively in economic and social development.

Social Integration

Basis for Action and Objectives:

66. The aim of Social Integration is to create "a society for all" which must be based upon respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. However, the pluralistic nature of most societies has resulted in problems for the different groups to achieve and maintain harmony and co-operation.

67. Neverthless, progress has been noted in the on going process of decolonisation and the wider spread of democracy, wider recognition of respect for human dignity and increasing recognition of the unique concern of indigineous people in the world, expanded economic and educational opportunities and globalisation of communication.

68. There are negative developments of social polarisation and fragmentation, wider disparities and inequalities of income and wealth within and among nations, degradation of the envrionment, magrinalisation of people, migration and major dislocation of population.

69. Violence is a growing threat to the security of communities everywhere and the global social order. These are compelling and urgent reasons for action to foster social cohesion while recognising, protecting and valuing diversity.

70. There is therefore an urgent need for, transparent and accountable public institution, opportunity for all to participate and involve in civil society; publicly available objective data for decision making, maintainence of social stability, justice and progress; gender equality and equity and empowerment of

women; rights to highest attainable standard of phisical and mental-health and to health as a factor of development; promoting addressing caring for each others well being and mutual support; danger to society of armed conflict, violence, crime and trafficking of drugs, women and children.

Actions

A. Responsive Govt and full participation in society

71. Government should promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and should make public institution more responsive to peoples needs, by ensuring decisions are based on accurate data and are taken with the participation of those who will be effected; review and allocate resources to promote community cohesion; simplify adminstrative regulations facilitating maximum access to information opening chanels of communication to seek redress of grieviences; production of relivent studies/researches and dessimination of information on innovative models and successful practices of global and technical changes on social integration; accountability of public services from all public officials; strengthening transparency and accountability of political groupings.

72. Encouraging the fullest participation in the society requires strengthening the capacities and opportunities for all people, especially the vulnerable and the disadvantaged; enabling institutions of civil society, specially those representing vulunerable and disadvantaged groups; giving community organisations greater involvement in the design and implementation of local projects; ensuring a legal framework that encourages contributions from community organisations and voluntary associations; establishing a universal and flexible social safety net, facilitating the access of disadvantaged and marginalised people to education as well as their participation in social and cultural life.

B. Non-discrimination, tolerance and mutual repect for and value of diversity

73. Eliminating discrimination and promoting tolerance for diversity requires enacting and implementing laws and regulation to combat all forms of discrimination; taking sepecific measures for the implementation of Nairobi Forward -Looking Strategy for the advancement of women ensuring gender equality and equity; dissiminating information in plain language about peoples rights and means for redressing complains; respecting and protecting all language used in the world; protecting traditional and cultural heritage of all nation; encouraging independent communication media promoting peoples understanding of social integration.

C. Equality and social justice

74. Government should promote equality and social justice by ensuring equality of all people before laws; regularly reviewing public policies and public spending from a social and gender equality, expanding and improving accees to basic services, providing equal opportunity in employment, encouraging free formation of cooperatives; community and other grass-roots organisations that strengthen social integration; ensuring that structural adjustment programmes are designed to minimise their negative effects on vulunerable and disadvantaged groups; full access to preventive and curative health care for all; providing basic education accompanied by improved quality for all, evaluating school system on regular basic and ensuring access to formal and non-formal learning activities, specifically to girls.

D. Responses to special social needs

75. Government responses to special needs of social groups should include identifing means to encourage institutions and services to adapt to the special needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; recognising and promoting their abilities and experiences; ensuring

access to work and social services to them; supporting by legilation incentives and other means of involving them in national decision making; improving their opportunities to seek position of public authority; promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous people; implementing the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit for Children 1990, encouraging Youth participation in designing and implementing policies and programmes; promoting the UN standardised rules of equalisation of opportunities for people with disability, older persons taking measures to enable persons belonging to minorities to participate in development of their society.

E. Responses to Specific Social needs of refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers, documented migrants and undocumented migrants seekers

76. In order to address the specific needs of refugees, and asylum governments are urged to address the root causes of movement of refugees and displaced persons; strengthening their support for international protection and assistance activities for refugees and displaced persons; extend international support to countries of asylum to meet the basic needs of refugees; create comprehensive condition that allow for the voluntary re-patriation of refugees in safty and dignity; abide by international laws concerning refugees.

77. To promote the equitable, treatment and integration of documented migrants and their families government should ensure that they received fare and equal treatment and early integration, by giving them right to long-term residence, civil and political rights and responsibility and naturalisation; international exchange of information on educational and training institution to promote productive employment among them and encourage international harmony and cross cultural understanding.

78. In order to address the concerns and basic human needs related to undocumented migrants government are urged to cooperate in reducing the causes of un-

documented migration; countries of destination transit and origin should cooperate to manage their flows; international cooperation to reduce their effects on receiving countries; promote effective measures to protect them from all forms of discrimination.

F. Violence, crime the problem of illicit drugs and substance abuse

79. Addressing the problems created by violence, crime, substance abuse and production, the use and trafficking of illicit drugs, and the rehabilitation of addicts requires introduction and implementation of specific policies and public health and social services programme; measures to eliminate all forms of exploitation abuse; harassment and violence against women; implement creative programmes channalising the energy of youths away from crime, violence, drugs abuse; improving mechanism for resolving conflict peacefully and reintegrating society; establishing partnership with NGOs and community organisation for the rehabilitation and reintegration into society of offenders; strengthen international cooperation and coordination in measures for compating and violence and transnational organised crimes and terrorism; cambating drugs and substance abuse and trafficking through national and international coordination; combating trafficking in women and children through nationally and internationally co-ordinated.measures.

G. Social integration and family responsbilities

80. The family should be strengthened and supported in all different cultural, political and social systems.

81. Helping the family in its contribution to social integration should involve encouraging social and economic policy that meet the needs of families; ensuring equal opportunities among its members; promoting mutual respect and equal partnership between women and men.

Implementation and Follow up

82. Social development and the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Summit are primarily the responsibility of governments, although international cooperation and assistance are essential for their full implementation. At all levels of implementation, the crucial and essential requirements are promotion and protectionof human rights, partnership with all actors especially voluntary organisations, recognising the diversity in the world, empowerment of people, efforts to mobilise new and additional financial resources andsolidarity in mutual respect among individuals, community and nations.

Actions

A. National Strategies, Evaluations and Reviews

83. At the National level an integrated approach to implementation of the Programme of Action requires analysing and reviewing policies and their impact on social development, effective coordination of all efforts of national and international actors, assessing poverty, integrating social development goals into national development efforts, developing quantitative and qualitative indicators for social development and strengthening institutional capacities for coordination.

Countries to formulate and strengthen by 1996 strategies for implementing Summit outcome, defining time bound goals and targets, strengthening implementation and monitoring mechanisms and assessing regularly the progress in the form of consolidated reports.

UN should declare the Decade for the Eradication of

Poverty starting 1996 which is the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty.

84. International support for national actions will require assistance in capacity building, coordinating assistance and disseminating information for facilitating policy analysis at the request of countries.

B. Involvement of Civil Society

85. Effective implementation of POA requires strengthening community organisations and NGOs; establishing legislative and regulatory frameworks, institutional arrangements and consultative mechanisms for involving them at all stages; supporting capacity building; providing resources eg. small grants and strengthening networking and exchange of expertise.

86. Contribution of civil society including the private sector can be enhanced by developing policies and procedures that facilitate government - civil society cooperation; encouraging and enabling business enterprises, trade unions and farmer's representative organization, cooperation, academic and research institutions and media to participate in social development programmes.

C. Mobilisation of Financial Resources

87. Augmenting the availability of public resources for the social development requires at the national level greater domestic savings through effective taxes that are cognisant to social development and through cutting back on subsidies that do not benefit the poor; reducing excessive military expenditures consistent with national security requirements; ensuring predictable funding for social development and that resources are available at the level of adminstration that is responsible for the same, increasing effective and transparent utilisation of funds, creating a supportive environment for resource mobilisation and developing innovative sources of funding.

88.Additional resources for Africa and other least developed countries require striving for the fulfillment of the agreed target of 0.7% of GNP for overall official development assistance as soon as possible and increasing share of funding of social development; agreeing on mutual commitment between interested parties to allocate 20% of ODA and 20% of national budget to social development; providing assistance for social sector activities including in the form of grants of soft loans; implementation of the commitments to the special needs of small island and land locked developing countries; giving preference to national experts, ensuring minimum project and programme overheads costs; expanding south south cooperation, monitoring the impact of trade liberalisation and encouraging recipient governments to strengthen their national coordination mechanisms for international cooperation.

89. Continued international cooperation and assistance in terms of assessing the financial implications of the commitments of the Summit, enhanced technical and financial assistance, support and encouragement of transformation of HRF will be required for economies in transition. Multi and bilateral donors will be invited to consult for effective coordination to achieve the objectives of the Summit.

90. Recognising the need for debt reduction, further progress can be made by inviting the international community including the financial institutions to continue to explore ways of implementing additional and innovative measures to alleviate debt burdens; encourage possibilities of debt swaps for social development, mobilising the resources of the ODA/debt reduction facility and inviting creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions to continue their initiatives to address the commercial debt problems.

91. In order to ensure that SAP include social development goals, governments should protect basic social programmes

and expenditures, review the impact of SAP on social development, develop policies to reduce their negative effects and promote policies enabling small enterprises, cooperatives and other forms of micro enterprises for generating employment.

92. International financial institutions should contribute to the mobilisation of resources for the implementation of the POA and are urged to integrate social development goals in their policies, programmes and operations including higher priority to social sector lending; should work together with concerned countries to improve policy dialogue and develop new initiatives to ensure that SAP promote sustained economic and social development with particular attention to people living in poverty. The UN should in cooperation with these agencies, study the impact of SAP and assist countries in creating the needed conditions for social development.

93. New and innovative ideas to generate funds should be considered by the relevant UN bodies.

94. A framework for international cooperation must be developed to integrate implementation, follow up and assessment of the outcome of UN conferences/Summits which have been held or proposed.

95. The General Assembly is the principal policy making and appraisal organ on matters relating to the follow up of the summit. The General Assembly should review the effectiveness of the steps taken to implement the outcome of the Summit in 1996 and call for a special session in 2000 AD for review and appraisal.

The Economic and Social Council would oversee system wide coordination in the implementation of the Summit outcome and made recommendations in this regard; review the reporting system in the area of social development. The Council should be invited to review the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development at its substantive session in 1995.

Regional Commissions, in cooperation with regional intergovernmental organisations and banks could convene meetings at a high political level to review progress and report through appropriate mechanism to the Council.

The role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in monitoring those aspects relating to compliance with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is important.

96. There is a need to renew, reform and revitalise the various parts of the UN system to serve the objectives of the Summit. They should expand and improve their cooperation in the field of social development to ensure that their efforts are complementary.

97. For economies in transition, UN should provide technical cooperation in designing, implementing and supporting social development programmes.

98. Implementation of the POA will involve strengthening of the UN system and inviting the WTO and ILO to contribute to the implementation of the POA. The Secretary General will be requested to ensure effective coordination.

99. Operational activities of the UN to be strengthened in order to supplement the Summit outcome by capacity building at local, national and regional level, coordination at the country level, encouraging south-south cooperation, increasing resources for operational activities for development, strengthening their capacity for information gathering, analysis and developing indicators of social development; and providing policy and technical support.

100. Major groups identified in Agenda 21 to be involved in planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation at both national and international levels. Mechanisms are needed to ensure this.

VANI-Voluntary Action Network India
H-17/1, Malviya Nagar
NEW DELHI 110 017
Ph.: 011/642 8369, 6450674

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